Local Government and Communities Committee

Planning (Scotland) Bill

Submission from Caroline Docherty

Under existing Scots Law, a property developer can currently purchase a site next to a music venue or nightclub, build flats, student accommodation or a hotel and then put the onus on the venue to ensure that the new build is not affected by noise or other environmental factors, rather than taking the responsibility on themselves.

It seems incredible to think that a new development could effectively wipe out a venue such as King Tut's, which, for over 30 years, has been at the beating heart of Glasgow's music scene and the launch point for countless well known bands.

Soundproofing or being forced to close early can be costly and for small venues, can be catastrophic.

With Scotland being a creative cultural hub, and as we celebrate Celtic Connections, it seems only right that this should be reviewed.

This is why I'm backing Agent of Change and implore you to include this within the planning bill to be debated in parliament.